ANTICIPATED EFFECTIVE DATES FOR NEW MANUFACTURED UNIT AND MOBILEHOME PARK IGNITION-RESISTANT CONSTRUCTION STANDARDS

The Department of Housing and Community Development (Department) is in the process of adopting preemptive emergency regulations, pursuant to the Manufactured Housing Act, to apply the ignition-resistant exterior provisions of Chapter 7A to manufactured homes, mobilehomes, multifamily manufactured homes and commercial modulars. These regulations have an anticipated effective date of September 1, 2008. When effective, manufactured homes, mobilehomes, multifamily manufactured homes or commercial modulars newly installed or relocated in a State Responsibility Area (SRA), Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone, or Wildland-Urban Interface (WUI) Fire Area outside of mobilehome or special occupancy parks must comply with the ignition-resistant exterior provisions of Chapter 7A. For more information on ignition resistant construction for these types of structures, please refer to the Department's proposed emergency regulations at the following website address: http://www.hcd.ca.gov/codes/mhp/.

In 2008, different rules will apply within mobilehome parks or special occupancy parks related to ignition-resistant construction and Chapter 7A. Any, new installations of manufactured homes, mobilehomes, multifamily manufactured homes or commercial modulars and new construction of mobilehome accessory buildings or structures within mobilehome parks or special occupancy parks where the Department is the enforcement agency currently are exempt from requirements of the California Building Code, Title 24, Part 2, Chapter 7A requirements, because they are subject to the Mobilehome Parks Act or Special Occupancy Parks Act requirements. However, the Department is in the process of adopting regulations for mobilehome parks and special occupancy parks that will reference the proposed ignition-resistant manufactured housing regulations based on Chapter 7A. Those amendments will make the ignition-resistant exterior construction requirements applicable to both manufactured homes and accessory buildings or structures within all mobilehome parks and special occupancy parks that are located in a designated WUI fire area in California. These proposed regulations have an anticipated effective date of mid-January 2009.

For mobilehome parks and special occupancy parks where a local city or county has responsibility for enforcement of the Mobilehome Parks Act and the Special Occupancy Parks Act¹, or the local fire agency has elected to assume responsibility for enforcement of its fire prevention code, that city or county may apply the provisions of its fire prevention code to the vegetation or defensible space within the park grounds provided it is equal to, or greater than the requirements in the Mobilehome Parks Act or Special Occupancy Parks Act regulations.

For more information regarding the applicability of Chapter 7A within mobilehome or special occupancy parks, please contact Brad Harward at 916-445-9471 or by e-mail: bharward@hcd.ca.gov.

¹ California Health and Safety Code sections 18200, et seq., and 18860, et seq.; and California Code of Regulations, Title 25, Chapter 2, commencing with section 1000 or Chapter 2.1, commencing with section 2000.